

# ACORN

The Journal of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario



XX 3 & 4  
Summer-Fall 1995



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## Summer-Fall 1995

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc.  
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A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

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Former residence of lumber baron John R. Booth. 1909. Architect John W.H. Watts. Now the Laurentian Club, 252 Metcalf Street, Ottawa. Submitted by Angela Carr.

# Editorial

You will notice that this last issue of ACORN for 1995 is a combined summer and fall one. Due to financial constraints we could publish only three issues rather than the usual four.

This is a special issue, largely devoted to Queen Anne architecture. We are most grateful to Angela Carr for her article. John Rutledge submitted the Goderich Railway Station article. The station is of a Queen Anne design and the article fits in very well, although John did not know we were featuring Queen Anne. Heritage Cambridge contributed a photo essay and North Waterloo describes one house of the Queen Anne style common in the area.

This is the first time we have had a post card campaign. We hope you take a moment to sign and mail the card and do your part to help preserve an important building.

We wish you a Happy New Year.

## President's Report

### THE ROAD AHEAD: THE ACO TO HIRE A MANAGER

My predecessor Julia Beck during 1993 and 1994 worked closely with the Secretary of the Provincial Council, Margaret Goodbody to formulate a Strategic Plan. After lengthy and repeated consultation with a large working group of ACO members, this document was written and broadly circulated among the membership for their comment and input.

An extraordinary meeting of Council was held in April of this year to discuss the direction and speed with which the Council and Executive Committee should pursue the objective contained in that Plan.

In 1993 to help prepare the ACO for its future role in conserving Ontario, the Ministry of Culture and the ACO Council commissioned a marketing and fund-raising study from the firm Genovese Vanderhoff Associates.

The most dramatic change to the ACO's operations identified by the Strategic Plan and the Genovese Vanderhoff study was whether or not the organization wanted and needed to grow. The response was near unanimous - Yes. But it was recognized that

the ACO could not grow in a meaningful manner unless we had a manager who would assume responsibility.

At present \$10.00 of each membership fee in the ACO is sent to underwrite the costs associated with the operation and administration of a provincial charity: insurance, the audit, bookkeeping, office rent, telephone, administrator's salary, etc. That figure has remained fixed at \$10.00 for many years. For some time there has been a short fall. It has cost more than \$10.00 per membership to provide these services.

In order that the ACO may grow, the membership fee must completely cover the real costs of our operation. And so it is necessary to increase the portion of the fee owed to the provincial office from \$10.00 to \$12.00. The Executive and Council hope that you support us in this decision.

We have been encouraged in our reorganization efforts by a recent letter from the Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, the Hon. Marilyn Mushinski, who informed us that the ACO's operating grant of \$14,000 for the 1995-1996 fiscal year has been approved.

Alec Keefer

## Council News

### ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR

The appointment of Patrick Coles as chair of the Advisory Board for 1995-1996 was confirmed at the Council Meeting of November 11. His responsibilities include chairing the Board's annual meeting and being available for consultation when there are difficult judgement calls in Advisory Board projects.

### COMPUTER DREAMS

The ACO has a new computer system - an Apple Power Mac 7200 - which can do wonderful things like connecting all branches and head office electronically. What we need right now is up-to-date membership data from all the branches so that our Heritage Administrator and computer expert, John Martins-Manteiga, can enter correct information. Please provide John with this basic data, then we can talk about E-mail, BBS, Compuserve, Data Matrix and World-Wide Web sites.

## OUTREACH

"Inspecting Heritage Buildings" training sessions for 120 City of Toronto building inspectors and plan examiners are being conducted by the ACO's Consulting Heritage Manager, Paul Dilse. A take-home kit is provided as a reference too. Besides the obvious benefits of this initiative, it adds to the ACO's public profile.

## INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

Mike Baker, past-president of the London Branch and Curator of Historical Museums for the London Region Art and Historical Museums, is preparing to mount an exhibition on industrial heritage to be held in London in 1997. He is seeking the participation of other branches with a strong industrial heritage. So far, London, Windsor, Hamilton and Kitchener have been suggested as participants. Mike can be reached at residence: (519) 472-0826, or business: (519) 661-5170.

## AGM '96

The Oxford County Branch has agreed to host the 1996 Annual General Meeting and conference in Woodstock from April 19 to 21, with the theme of "Interior Spaces", celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Oxford County Archives. The organizers are Bill Butt and Eleanor Gardhouse, to whom we extend our thanks.

Margaret Goodbody

*The following is a letter written to McMaster University by ACO Member Michael Keefe.*

1995-11-02

McMaster University  
Public Relations Department  
1280 Main Street West  
Hamilton, Ontario  
L8S 4K1

Subject: Former Park Baptist Church,  
Brantford

I have heard some very upsetting things about the University's actions in disposing of the subject property. Park Baptist Church building is an officially designated "part of

Brantford's Heritage" as a part of the Victoria Square Park Heritage District under the Ontario Heritage Act, RSO 1970. Furthermore, the University allowed itself to be outmanoeuvred at a cost of \$225,000.00 at a time when I, as an alumnus, am being asked regularly to contribute to the University's coffers.

Unfortunately, the amount I am able to contribute, as a pensioner, could not, by its withdrawal, have any effect on the University.

The story as I understood from official City of Brantford sources:

1. Park Baptist's congregation disbanded a couple of years ago and donated its property to McMaster.

2. The University was having difficulty in selling the property.

3. The City -- allegedly by accident -- allowed the option to expire without renewing it. Neither the University nor the realtor involved reminded the City of the "accidental expiry".

5. The day after the expiry, the University sold the property to a private developer for \$75,000.00. (This is where the loss to the University of \$225,000.00 comes in: the City was willing to extend its option -- and to purchase if necessary -- for \$300,000.00, whereas the University sold it to a developer for \$75,000.00.)

6. The developer intends to proceed at once with the demolition of this historic building, leaving a vacant lot. He claims to have no plans for an alternative development of the site.

I have discussed this matter with other McMaster alumni in the area. All seem scandalized.

I look for an early explanation from the University for this apparent blunder which seems very close to collusion with a private investor -- to the University's detriment.

Although I am tempted to send a copy of this letter to McMaster Times to be published under Letters to the Editor, I shall, instead, allow adequate time for you to get me a satisfactory explanation and/or clarification of the facts as I understand them.

Michael Keefe, B.A. (Pennsylvania-1950), M.Ed. (Toronto-1972), M.A. (McMaster-1984)

## *Critiquing "Queen Anne"*

Any analysis of "Queen Anne" revival as a stylistic category is complicated by the fact that the term is applied to such a variety of late nineteenth-century buildings as to render it virtually meaningless in many cases. In Britain the red-brick architecture of Richard Norman Shaw is usually considered the foremost example of this mode, whereas in the United States the term is frequently applied to a range of irregularly shaped designs executed in a variety of materials, as well as to the picturesque wood-frame structures of the Shingle style. The reason why interpretations are so diverse is that nineteenth-century

"Queen Anne" is not so much a stylistic classification as a theory of eclecticism that justified a range of solutions depending upon the design problem at hand.

According to architectural historian Mark Girouard, early public declarations about the revival of Queen Anne motifs date from the mid-1860s, when Alexander Beresford Hope (in a lecture to the Architectural Association) recommended a return to the style of townhouses and smaller class country homes built between 1660 and 1710. Two years later his ideas were taken up by the Reverend J.L. Petit, who remarked that domestic architecture from the time of Queen Anne might provide a useful model because it combined classical orders with vernacular materials to blends easily with prevailing Gothic revival motifs. The other important advantage for contemporary practitioners, according to Petit, was that the style could be used "without giving the idea that we are adopting the manner of an age other than our own."<sup>1</sup>

The Fountain Court at Hampton Court Palace, of 1689-94, by Sir Christopher Wren (while slightly earlier than the reign of Queen Anne, who ruled from 1702 to 1714), exemplifies the type of precedent to which Petit refers.

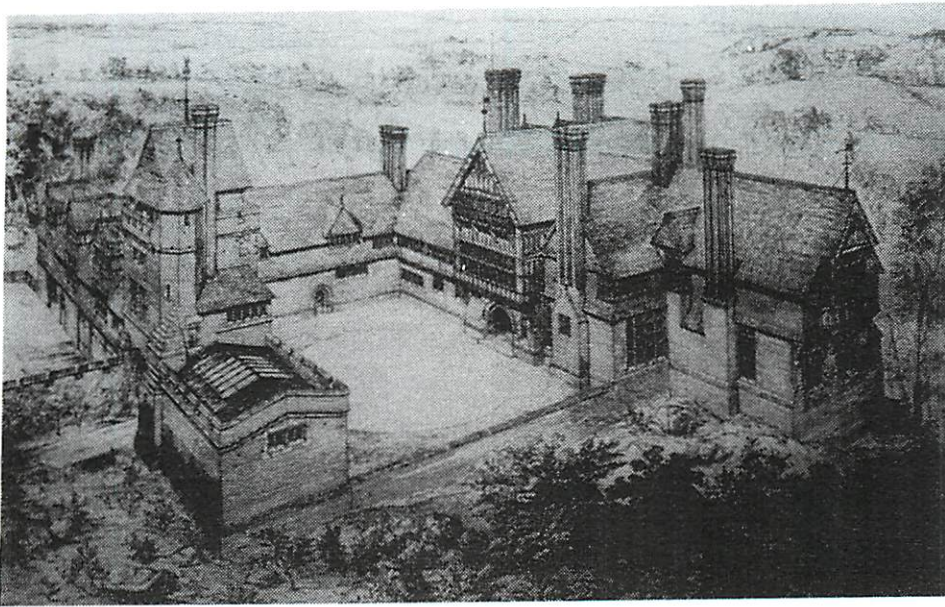
In the latter half of the nineteenth century, when Queen Anne revival came to the fore under the influence of Richard Norman Shaw, the architect's New Zealand Chambers, of 1871-3, formerly in Leadenhall Street, London, closely followed the classical vernacular of the Queen Anne period.<sup>1</sup> Its symmetrical red-brick facade relieved by classical ornament in stone and white-painted window bars closely paralleled seventeenth and eighteenth century examples. As a result, even the most restrictive interpretations of Queen Anne revival accept this as a prime example of the mode.<sup>2</sup>

Also of interest to Shaw were the half-timbered medieval manors and tile-hung cottages of the English countryside. The former provided the basis for the now demolished country estate known as Leyswood, Sussex, of 1868<sup>2</sup>, the latter, for his 1877 house designs in the London suburb of Bedford Park<sup>3</sup>. Ultimately, the British version of Queen Anne revival encompassed far more than the name first implied, becoming in Girouard's paraphrase "a kind of architectural cocktail, with a little Flemish, a squeeze of Robert Adam, a generous dash of Wren, and a touch of Francois Ier."<sup>3</sup>



*Park Street Baptist Church.*  
Photo by Michael Keefe

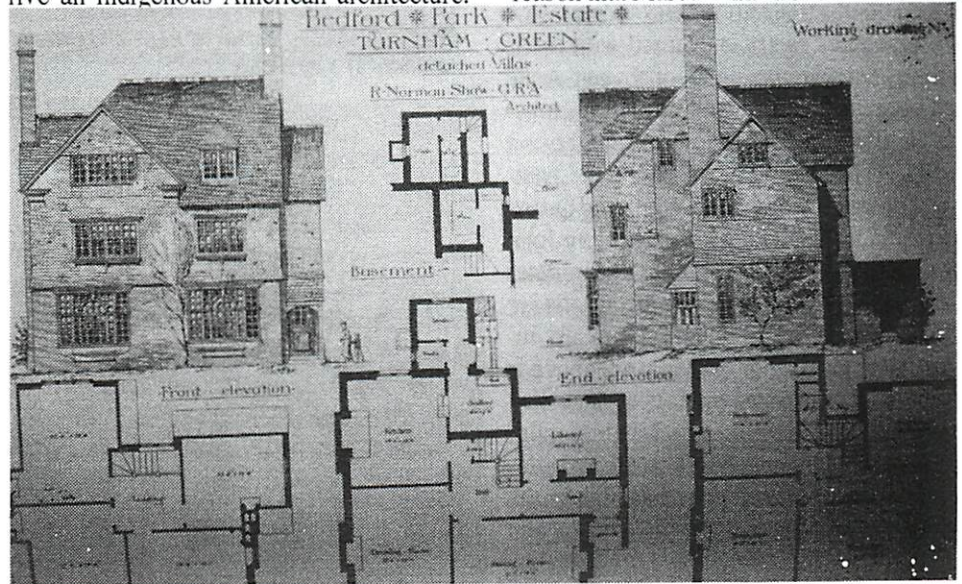




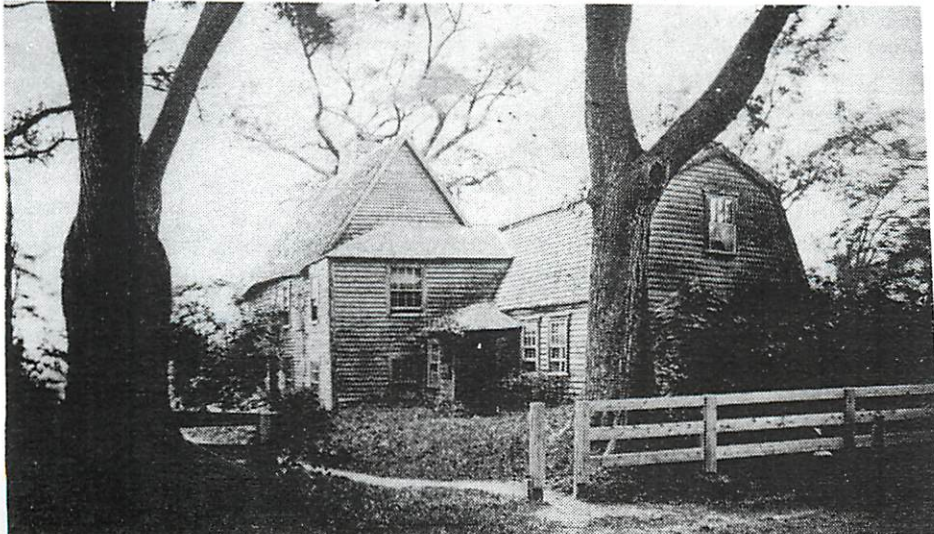
*Leyswood, Sussex, 1868, Architect R. Norman Shaw.  
Submitted by Angela Carr*

In the United States, "Queen Anne" came into its own following the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876. The half-timbering of the British government's pavilion drew a favourable reception, adding to a ground-swell started by American architect Henry Hobson Richardson with his Watts Sherman house at Newport, Rhode Island, of 1874. For the most part, however, American theorists rejected links to eighteenth-century British models, and looked instead to the colonial past for inspiration. According to architectural historian Vincent Scully, one of the early American writers on the subject, Henry Hudson Holly, claimed that Queen Anne expressed real domestic needs and conserved "truth" in architecture far more effectively than Gothic revival. These ideas were expanded by architect R.S. Peabody and writer J.M. Brydon in *American Architect & Builder*. Both pointed to colonial styles as a

wellspring from which architects could derive an indigenous American architecture.



*Bedford Park, London, England. Architect R. Norman Shaw.  
Submitted by Angela Carr*



*Fairbanks House, 1636, in Dedham, Massachusetts.  
Submitted by Angela Carr*

The old houses of Hingham and Dedham, Massachusetts, and other New England towns were suggested as models. Examples like the Fairbanks House, of 1636, in Dedham, with its wood-shingle exterior and gambrel roof<sup>4</sup> provided the basis for a new development Scully has called the "Shingle style"<sup>5</sup>.

American "Queen Anne" was not limited to Shingle style. Free-wheeling eclecticism promoted a flexible response to design, and ensuring abuses were described by architectural critic Montgomery Schuyler as a "multitude of incongruities" perpetrated by a "frantic and vociferous mob"<sup>4</sup>. Round turrets and arches closely associated with the Romanesque style popularized by Henry Hobson Richardson often fused with old English and Shingle style motifs. It is for this reason that Marcu Whifen has described this

mode in terms of "irregularity of plan and massing and variety of colour and texture"<sup>5</sup>. Heterogeneity was the only consistent feature of a style that had so few limitations as to eliminate virtually all parameters.

In Canada architects were influenced both by British and American traditions. Results vary from one jurisdiction to another, depending upon available materials, and local building by-laws. In the Maritimes, for example, American Shingle style was common<sup>6</sup>, whereas in Central Canada (Toronto in particular) Shavian red brick was often combined with a tile-hung upper storey set in mortar to reduce the fire hazard. Severities of climate and shortages of household help dictated compact floor plans, whereas British and American designs were frequently more

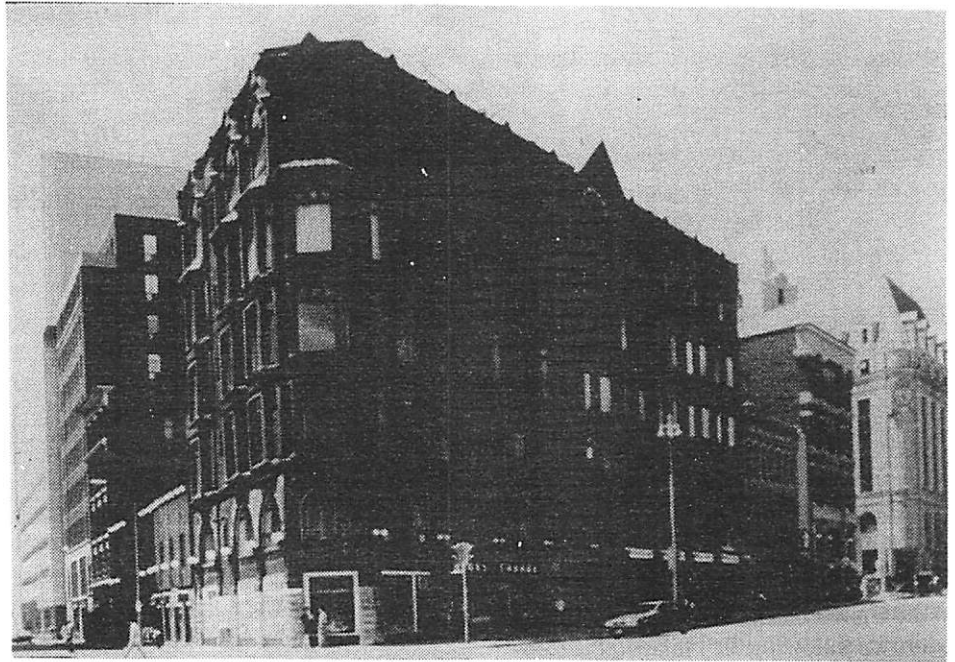


diffuse<sup>6</sup>. Typical of Toronto was the Robert Simpson house, of 1883, by architects Langley and Burke, its medieval gables and multiplicity of materials seemingly contradicted by a controlled and compact rectilinear plan.<sup>7</sup>

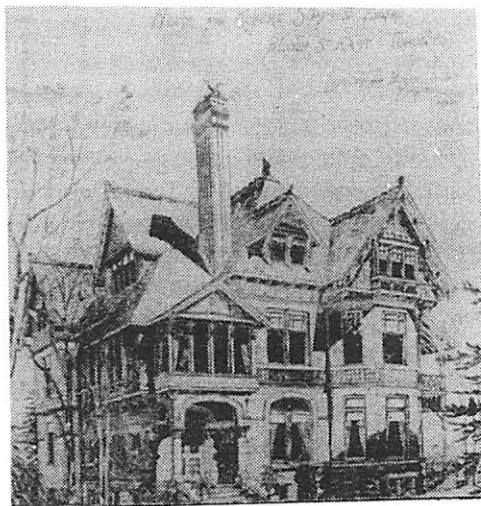
Leslie Maitland's recent publication entitled *The Queen Anne Revival Style in Canada* collected a series of examples from the files of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Maitland notes the importance of local materials in determining formal structure. Her criteria for selection included towers, shaped gables, terracotta panelling, and Venetian, Tudor, bay and oriel windows.<sup>7</sup> This accords with the standards applied by the Canadian Inventory of Historic Building in determining stylistic classification for its computer database.<sup>8</sup> In the context of the foregoing discussion, the relevance of such characteristics can be examined with reference to specific examples of Queen Anne revival.

One example to which Maitland refers is a commercail building known as Central Chambers, located at the corner of Elgin and Queen Streets<sup>9</sup>. Designed by Montreal native John James Brown (1837-1903), the structure dates from 1890-3. Its red-brick bearing walls are cantilevered. The lower two floors are encompassed by a stone arcade, and, above is an attic level animated by a series of Serlian windows ranged beneath angular gables. Clay-tile roofs, terracotta panels, and tile-hung facings add texture and variety to the profile. Derived from the innovative design of Oriel Chambers, Liverpool, of 1864, by architect Peter Ellis, this updated Ottawa example departs from precedent with a red-brick fabric, oriels, and mixed materials all of which distinguish it as an example of Queen Anne revival.

Among the domestic examples recorded by the Canadian Inventory of Historic Building is 332-334 Gilmour Street<sup>9</sup>. Datable to 1888, this one-and-a-half storey structure brings together many elements and materials characteristic of Queen Anne eclecticism<sup>9</sup>. Its red-brick fabric contrasts with tiled gables, and banks of diamond-paned leaded windows line the elevations. Rare in North America, leaded windows were a feature of Richardson's Watts Sherman house, but seem closer in feeling to British works like Leyswood. The asymmetrical elevation accented by a corner tower is, however, more typical of American motifs, which responded rather dramatically to expectations imposed



*Central Chambers, corner of Elgin and Queen Streets, 1890-3, Ottawa. Architect John James Brown. Submitted by Angela Carr*



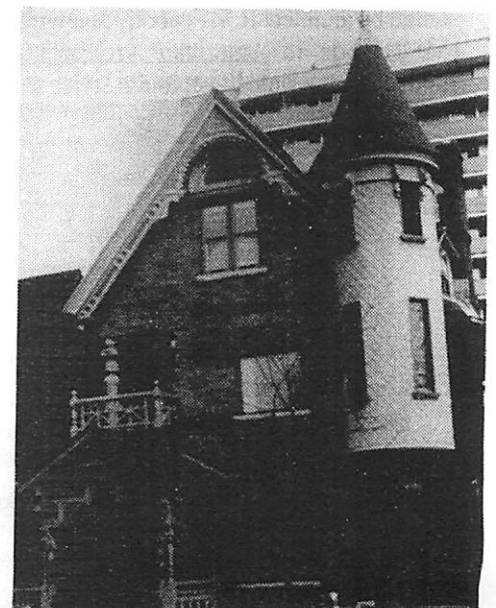
*Robert Simpson House, Bloor Street East, Toronto, 1883. Architect Langley & Burke. Submitted by Angela Carr*

by the theory of the picturesque.

Another important residence listed by the Canadian Inventory of Historic Building is 326-328 Somerset Street<sup>10</sup>. Thought to date from 1897, and attributed to a local builder, James A. Corry, the purchase of this particular lot by Corry has been confirmed by architectural historian C.J. Taylor<sup>10</sup>. The house was erected about ten years after the area was first subdivided. Its compact three-storey structure is of red brick with a tiled gable and unusual shingled tourelle. The latter motif had been introduced in England in 1887-8 by Richard Norman Shaw as a part of his Scottish baronial concept for New Scotland Yard. But this example is covered in diamond-shaped shingles that lend an almost reptilian

quality to the surface. Such preoccupations with texture are typical of American Shingle style, as is the elaborate spindlework porch based on works like the Casino at Newport, Rhode Island, of 1879-81, by New York architects McKim, Mead & White.

One further example cited by Leslie Maitland is the former residence of lumber baron John R. Booth at 252 Metcalfe Street in Ottawa (now the Laurentian Club)<sup>11</sup>. Erected in 1909 to a design by former Dominion architect John W.H. Watts, the three-storey, red-brick mansion is punctuated by a stone



*326-328 Somerset Street, 1897. Builder James A. Corry. Submitted by Angela Carr*



*A Queen Anne house with shingled gable. Corner tower and leaded paned windows.*  
Submitted by Angela Carr

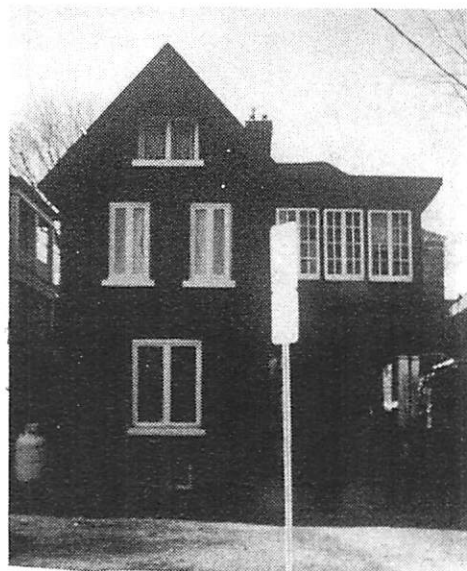
window bays and reveals. Notable features include an unusual square tower and crow-stepped gables covered by copper flashing. (See cover photo.) Comparable to Shaw's Albert Hall Mansions, Kensington of 1879-81, this usual profile is Flemish in origin. The Building's compact configuration is typical of Canadian planning practices, while the neo-Renaissance ornament and carved stone spandrels recall classical motifs and parterring of British examples like Sparrowe's house, Ipswich<sup>11</sup>.

Also from the early twentieth century is an example at 75 Florence Street in Ottawa<sup>12</sup>. The red brick exterior contrasts with spindlework gables and a shingled sleeping porch, supported on classical columns. In this case, however, the elements common to earlier examples such as corner towers and angled bays are not present. This invites consideration of how many qualifying elements must be represented in order to justify a building's stylistic classification as Queen Anne revival.

Finally, there is 23 Linden Terrace, which dates from about 1910<sup>13</sup>. This three storey, red brick house includes an angled bay extending through two floors, a porch with classical columns, and a third storey with broad overhanging eaves beneath a curb roof and gambrel. A gain the gable is shingled -- a sign of the mixed materials commonly associated with Queen Anne revival. But the

justification for inclusion seems less forceful, because the elements are so diverse. Eclecticism at this point has ceased to be identifiable with any particular stylistic classification.

The problem of classifying various structures according to style is most acute when dealing with a large number of sources in a computerized data base. Researchers want to be able to access as many examples as possible according to stylistic definition. But if the categories are too rigorously defined, there



*75 Florence St., Ottawa, early 20th century.*  
Submitted by Angela Carr

will be a large number of structures outside the net. Conversely, if the definition is drawn too broadly, any red-brick house erected between 1870 and 1910 could conceivably come within the purview of Queen Anne revival. Such a situation would be equally unsatisfactory, requiring researchers to sift through every example to decide whether or not it complied with and academically correct designation. One is left to fall back upon the type of classification first used by the Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, in which building plan and external features are recorded as the primary means of identification.

In summary Ottawa's Queen Anne revival architecture is most commonly characterized by red brick and a mixture of other materials including shingle or tile, spindlework, and terracotta. These materials were common throughout Ontario, dictated by climatic conditions and local building bylaws, which prohibited the use of wood in the main body of the structure. The choice also indicates a preference for British brick construction with some influence from the United States apparent in the shinglework and spindles. Most typically there are three storeys of which the lower two are brick with tile-hung gables above and a spindlework porch.

The Ottawa configuration corresponds in large measure to that which Patricia McHugh formulated for the city of Toronto in her *Toronto Architecture: A City Guide* (1985). She referred to an "abundance of towers, turrets, gables, dormers, and bay windows, their form consciously asymmetric," as well as cladding in stone, red brick, terracotta tile, and wood, high gabled roofs, bargeboards, and wooden spindlework. Similarly, across Ontario Leslie Maitland describes the typical motif as a brick lower storey supporting a half-timbered upper floor with a multi-level roof in combination with bays, balconies, gables and dormers. She regards the shingled upper storey as less common, although there are numerous examples of this type in Toronto. Ottawa, by contrast, is dominated by an all-brick motif, a result no doubt of local building restrictions.

It is possible to conclude, therefore, that the practice of Queen Anne revival in Ottawa approximated that in other parts of the province, and that this involved a heavy reliance upon the type of materials in use in Britain with some stylistic adaptations from the United States. The style's impact was felt in the city by the 1880s and continued until



about 1910, spreading Thackery's "sweetness and light" throughout the core area of centretown and in the broad suburban avenues of the adjoining Glebe district.

<sup>1</sup> Mark Girouard, *Sweetness and Light: The 'Queen Anne' Movement, 1860-1900* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1977), p.37.

<sup>2</sup> Mark Girouard, "Review of Andrew Saint, *Richard Norman Shaw* (1976)", *JSAH* (1076): 195-6; and Henry-Russell Hitchcock, *Architecture: Nineteen and Twentieth Centuries*, 4th ed. (Harmondsworth, Middlesex; Penguin Books, 1977), pp. 291-308.

<sup>3</sup> Girouard, p. 1, for definition, and pp. 163 and 166-7 for Leyswood and Bedford Park. See also Andrew Saint, *Richard Norman Shaw* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1976), for details of Shaw's work.

<sup>4</sup> Montgomery Schuyler, "Concerning 'Queen Anne,'" reprinted in *American Architecture and Other Writings*, William Jordy and Ralph Coe, eds., 2 vols. (Cambridge, Massachusetts: The Belknap Press, 1961), 2:453-87.

<sup>5</sup> Marcus Whiffen, *American Architecture Since 1780* (Cambridge, Massachusetts; The MIT Press, 1985), pp. 115-121.

<sup>6</sup> Edmund Burke, "Some Notes on House Planning," *CAB* 3 (May 1890): 55-7.

<sup>7</sup> Leslie Maitland, *The Queen Anne Revival Style in Canadian Architecture* (Ottawa: Supply and Services Canada, 1990), pp. 41-62.

<sup>8</sup> I am indebted to Richard Martineau and Wayne Duford of the Parks Services for their assistance in researching examples of Queen Anne revival in Ottawa, and for supplying many of the photographs reproduced in this paper.

<sup>9</sup> C. James Taylor, Canadian Inventory of Historic Building -- Historical Building Report -- Ms Report Series No. 268, February 1975.

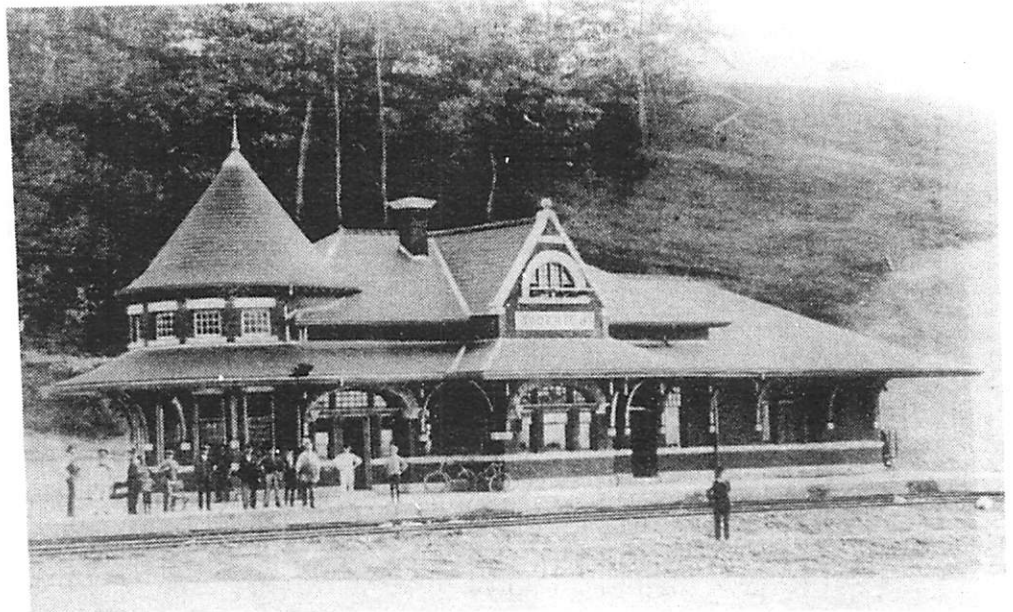
<sup>10</sup> C. James Taylor, Canadian Inventory of Historic Building -- Historical Building Report -- Ms Report Series No. 268, March 1975.

<sup>11</sup> Girouard, p. 44.

Angela Carr

## Goderich C.P.R. Railway Station

Completed in 1907, the C.P.R. Station at Goderich was the centrepiece of the end of track operations of the 90 mile (120 kilometre) Guelph to Goderich subdivision. In addi-



*Goderich Train Station in earlier times.*

Photo by Mac Campbell Photography, Goderich

tion to the station adjacent to the Lake Huron waterfront, there was a steam locomotive storage facility, repair shop, turn table, employee dormitory and track connection to the nearby Grand Trunk (C.N.R.) branch line to Stratford.

With the decline of the steam era and passenger service operations in the 1960's, the line slowly downgraded to low volume freight traffic until the subdivision was abandoned in 1989. The entire line to Guelph was torn up for scrap and the Goderich Station

was sold to the town for \$1.00, thereby saving the building from demolition. The nearby adjacent railway buildings had long since passed into history.

The building sat empty, vandalized and boarded up until the summer of 1991. A group of citizens called the Menesetung Bridge Association, was formed to purchase from the C.P.R.'s demolition contractor, the spectacular and historic bridge across the Maitland River, 1 km down the line. The groups aim was to preserve the bridge and 3



*Goderich Train Station.*

Photo by Mac Campbell Photography, Goderich



kilometres of rail lands for conversion to a walking trail and linear park.

Looking for a place to locate and store equipment, the group asked the town for the use of the station and the request was granted. Working with local railway historians, association volunteers, and with a grant from the Provincial Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, the restoration of the building was undertaken as well. Interior work included removal of debris left by the railway's departing crews, washing, repairing and painting the original burlap plaster walls, wood trim and hardwood floors. In addition, the washrooms, kitchen and agents office were refurbished with former crew quarters converted to tool room and storage areas.

Current exterior work consists of replacing the asphalt shingle roof on the westerly peaked portion of the building (1994) with the restoration of the original slate roof dome over the main waiting room (1995). Repairing and painting the wood fascia, eaves, windows, doors and trim to the original C.P.R. colours was also undertaken.

The building is presently managed by the Menesetung Bridge Association and serves as a trail centre and visitor interpretive meeting place available to local community groups within the town of Goderich, the owner and ultimate approval authority. Future plans call for further restoration and architectural renovations with possible incorporation as a hotel waterfront complex, while preserving the original heritage features.

*Rod LaFontaine, P.Eng., Vice-Chairman  
Menesetung Bridge Association, Inc.*

*Blake Patterson, The Goderich Signal Star  
Newspaper. Submitted by John Rutledge.*

## Branch Reports

### Port Hope

#### HOUSE TOUR

The annual Port Hope house tour was a resounding success again this year. It was sold out two weeks before the event, earlier than last year. The weather was excellent which was a bonus for the visitors. There were eight houses on the tour.

We started last year having buskers performing at the houses and we repeated it this year. As there are many tours being held throughout the year, some quite close to our

town, the committee thought something extra had to be added and this proved a good way to entertain people who were, at times, waiting in line.

This tour has been going on for twenty or more years and some years it has proved difficult to get houses. Something new happened this year - the homeowners had their own tour, with committee members, the day after, followed by dinner at a private home; this allowed homeowners to remain in their homes the day of the tour and be available to answer questions raised by visitors, which many of them did.

We continue to give write-ups on our tickets about the houses as to the year they were built and their architectural features, i.e. finial, fanlight and eared architrave etc., thereby encouraging people to learn and recognize these embellishments when they see houses anywhere.

*Marion Garland*

#### WALKING TOUR STEPS INTO HISTORY

We are pleased to report that a new initiative from the local school board has involved the resources of the A.C.O.'s Port Hope Branch in a most pleasing and practical way. In early October the travel and tourism class at the Port Hope High School asked the branch if they would consider conducting a detailed tour of a portion of historic Port Hope, which would include an overview of the history of the town.

It so happened that the text for the second in the series of eight planned A.C.O. Port Hope Branch historic walking tours of the town was about to be turned over to the printer and this afforded a wonderful opportunity to test run the text and information on an eager group of students.

The first portion of the tour began at the Memorial Band Shell (the restoration of which was an earlier A.C.O. Port Hope Branch project) where the early morning silence helped in a recreation in the mind's eye, of the changing scene of the Town Hall area before them, in the years 1650 - 1870. This encompassed the Indian village of Cochingomink, through the draining of the marsh, founding of Smith's Creek (an earlier name for the burgeoning town), creation of the harbour, naming of Port Hope, and the industrial revolution. Comments were heard as to how different it all looked back then and how much

neater it is now.

We then progressed along the old Indian trail, Baseline, (now Dorset Street West), where time passed swiftly on the steep tree lined street; as tales of Port Hope's artistic, eccentric and definitely off-the-wall characters were unfolded, intertwined with architectural, scientific and historic detail. I think it fair comment to make that the students were surprised, even overawed, that such diversity could be found, and that just on one street.

From the ACO perspective, I found the whole exercise most satisfactory, for not only were we continuing this branch's commitment to the belief that education of our architectural heritage is important, not least amongst our youth, but the civic pride that can come of having a more informed citizenry of the unique community that is Port Hope, may benefit us all - for we are each ambassadors for the town. Who is to say that if the spark of preservation of our history and architectural heritage was ignited in just one of those who, in time, may become this community's property owners, one or more buildings down the road may be saved or preserved.

*Darrel G. Leeson  
Vice-Chair, Port Hope Branch*

#### THE GARDEN TOUR

The Garden Tour was held on Saturday, July 8. Among gardens of note were Cliff and Ingeburg Short's, where many years of planning have evolved into a lovely large urban naturescape. Allen and Nancy Redner have maintained and upgraded the family's large grounds with more plans for the future. The trees were lovely and it was nice to see that more were being planted. Maria and Dan Farmer are busy people with little time to cut the grass at their residence, therefore the multi level property was totally mulched and it was only planted on the edge of a ravine. Anne and Selwyn Shield live in a property in a new part of the town, and have lovely deep perennial borders with nice views through the trees. Anne's garden is in constant evolution and will continue to change and grow as long as she lives there. As well, Michael Harrison's, Graham and Cathy Moore's, Tim Badgley and Dean Howletts gardens were wonderful visual feasts of colour. Den and Susan Earle's gardens are located north of Port Hope on County Road ten and were the perfect way to finish the tour.

## ROYAL BANK

The Royal Bank, located on the corner of Walton and John Street, is presently receiving a face lift. The building will be stripped of its paint and re-surfaced with a clear coat on the upper half of the building, and a Dura-rock coating on the bottom portion. Plans are underway to replace the illuminated signs with a more suitable lettering on a royal blue banded background. Expected completion was early to mid September.

## THE ARCHIVES BUILDING

The Archives building is completed, and volunteer archivists/assistants are being trained.

## THE CAPITOL THEATRE

First opened in 1930, with a showing of "Queen High", featuring Ginger Rogers, Charlie Ruggles and Frank Morgan, the theatre was closed in 1987. Sparked by a generous offer from a subsequent owner and encouraged by the active support of the local branch of the A.C.O., a steering committee was established to explore the potential of the old building as a multi-purpose community forum. The response of local business and the community at large has been enthusiastic. The Capitol Theatre is now in transition from the 1930's movie house to a multi-purpose community forum. Construction was put on hold to present the summer festival. Completion of the main building is scheduled for spring 1996 with further construction anticipated in the future to accommodate the props room, dressing rooms, the green room, office space and more.

## TREASURE HUNT OF PORT HOPE HOUSES

The Archives executive put on a treasure hunt for students, to promote more awareness of the architectural history of the Town. Cryptic clues were used, and it was suggested that parents could help, thus interesting the older citizens as well.

*Marion Garland*

## St. Mark's Heritage Foundation

Terry Foord, President of the Port Hope Branch of the A.C.O., is pleased to announce the establishment of St., Mark's Heritage Foundation.

St. Mark's Church is one of Port Hope's oldest buildings built in 1822. It was one of the first buildings in Ontario to be designated



*St. Mark's Heritage Foundation in Port Hope. Terr Foord, on the right and Bob Fair, Chairman, on the left.*

*Submitted by Terry Foord*

for architectural merit and historic interest under the Ontario Heritage Act of 1970.

The St. Mark's Heritage Foundation has been established as an independent body. Although endorsed by Bishop Douglas C. Blackwell, it has no ties with the Anglican Diocese, but is strictly for the preservation and conservation of this fine building and property, one of Port Hope's oldest landmarks.

Terry Foord states also that at its meeting on September 7, 1995, the Board of Directors of the Port Hope Branch of the A.C.O. passed a resolution supporting the establishment of St. Mark's Heritage Foundation. "The restoration and preservation of this architectural treasure, with which the Foundation is charged, is an objective we wholeheartedly endorse."

The members of the Founding Board of Directors are:

Bob Fair, Chairman  
Ian Angus, Treasurer  
Alexander (Sandy) St. Clair  
Anita Blackwood  
A.K. Sculthorpe  
Jim Gilmer

If anyone needs further information as to how they can help in this project, please contact any member of the board.

## North Waterloo

### SCHIEL-PATTERSON HOUSE

115 WILLIAM STREET WEST  
DESIGNATED: APRIL 19, 1993

The Schiel-Patterson House was built in 1898 on the corner of William Street West and Charles Street (now Dunbar). This lot, which was part of the newly-opened Samuel G. Snyder survey on the west side of town, had been purchased by Jacob Oetzel in 1888. In 1898, Oetzel sold the land to his son-in-law, Martin Schiel who had married his daughter Matilda.

Mr. Schiel promptly began plans for a new home. He drew up a home-made contract with local builder Charles Kreutziger. This unique document (still in possession of





*Schiel-Patterson House, 1898. 115 William Street, W., Waterloo.*  
Photo courtesy Waterloo LACAC

the present owners) contains such clauses as "the house is to be like the Mitchell's in Berlin" and the "front window is to be similar to the one in Mrs. Martin's home".

Martin Schiel, who worked for Kaufman Rubber, lived in the home until 1947 and his wife until 1950. In 1964 the present owners, Drs. Palmer and Nancy Lou Patterson purchased the home.

This house exhibits several Queen Anne features and is quite typical of the Queen Anne style in Kitchener-Waterloo. Our examples of the Queen Anne style are subdued compared to some of the elaborate ones you would find in Ottawa, Toronto or London. The information about the house is reprinted from the Waterloo LACAC booklet about designated buildings.

Marg Rowell

## ***Heritage Cambridge***

Heritage Cambridge has introduced a new program for Cambridge and area homeowners who now have an opportunity to purchase a heritage plaque for their home. The plaques illustrate the date the home was constructed, the original homeowner, and his/her occupation.

The concept is not new; it has been successfully implemented in Fergus, and Oakville. The concept was initiated to enhance local pride in its built Heritage, to educate the general public on the history of

the area, and its past citizens, and to promote a stronger unity of participation within local neighbourhoods.

In many ways, heritage conservation, in general has become reactive instead of proactive in working towards preservation. Citizens of local communities have primarily watched new media reports of groups like Heritage Cambridge fight with local developers over retaining heritage landmarks, and in many ways these citizens are merely spectators on the sidelines. Without the

knowledge of group involvement, or personal dedication, the 'sideliner' may indeed have concerns, but is simply not personally motivated to get involved.

Involvement is key to the successful implementation of the Heritage Plaques concept, since the homeowner must do the research themselves about their own home and its history. In this way, the intrigue of researching one's own home gives the project a personal agenda.

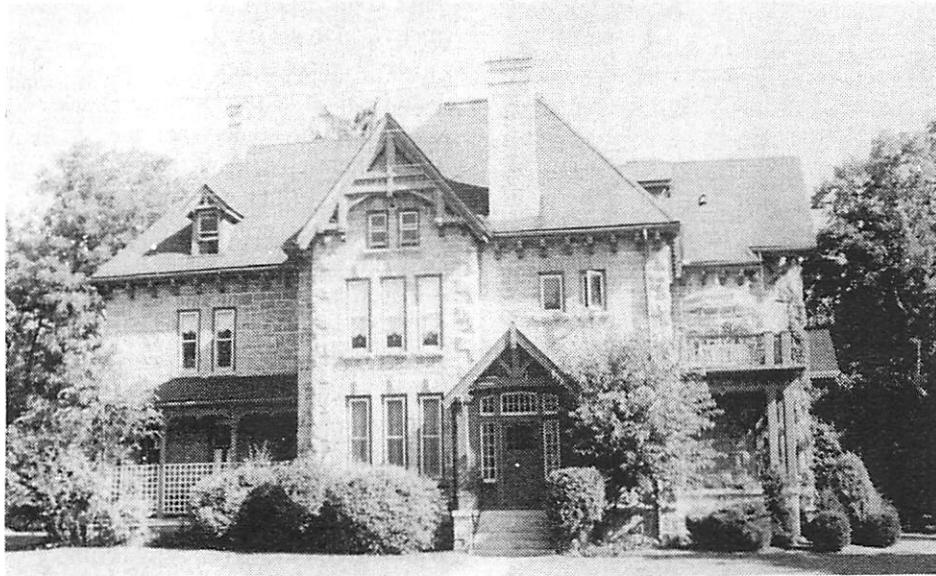
The signs are made to order at a cost of \$190.00, which essentially pays for the sign. As a guideline, Heritage Cambridge has written a "plaque policy", which must be followed in order to provide validation of the date, and original homeowner. The signs will remain consistent, so that as more people purchase the plaques, the more definition will be given to a given neighbourhood. As with Oakville and Fergus, one will be able to travel through the City, and get a very real sense of the past heritage of the town, through the various family names and occupations.

We believe that by giving the community the opportunity to create a defined "place" to the neighbourhood, a pride will develop that hopefully will not only promote greater public awareness of the past, but will instill a pride of protection for future generations to come.

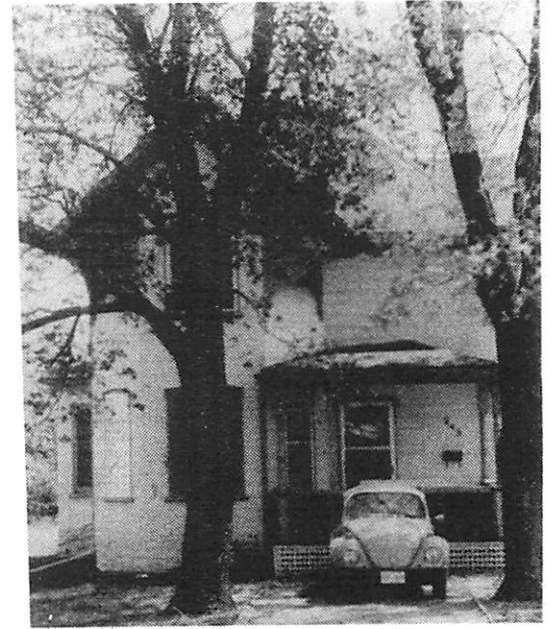


*Historic Building Plaques, Heritage Cambridge.*  
Photo by Cambridge Times Newspaper

## Heritage Cambridge : Queen Anne



2 Crescent Place, Cambridge.  
Valerie Spring, City of Cambridge Planning Dept.



248 Millvue Street, Cambridge.  
Paul Dilse, courtesy of City of Cambridge Planning Dept.

### Oxford Branch

#### COUNTY CHURCHES

County Churches have always held a certain sense of romanticism and represented rural community solidarity and peacefulness. The small three bay building with its stained glass gothic windows, steeple, and high-pitched roof in a pastoral setting of large trees and ancient grave stones has been celebrated in song and poem.

Unfortunately, we are gradually losing this important symbol of our earlier rural culture due to dwindling congregations. Many such churches have been torn down, converted to other uses, or left to deteriorate from weather or vandals. However, on the positive side, some churches are kept alive with periodic commemorative services and others are stubbornly maintained by loyal church members even when joining a larger urban church as become an option.

When Christianity had a stronger influence on our lives, the church was the focus in establishing personal, family and social standards for the community. Many of these early churches were built and maintained at great financial sacrifice to the congregation which reflected their vigorous religious commitment. Modern pragmatism would disagree with the inefficiencies and poor resource allocation of the different denominations, having their own separate house of worship



120 Queen Street, Cambridge.  
Photo courtesy of City of Cambridge Planning Dept.

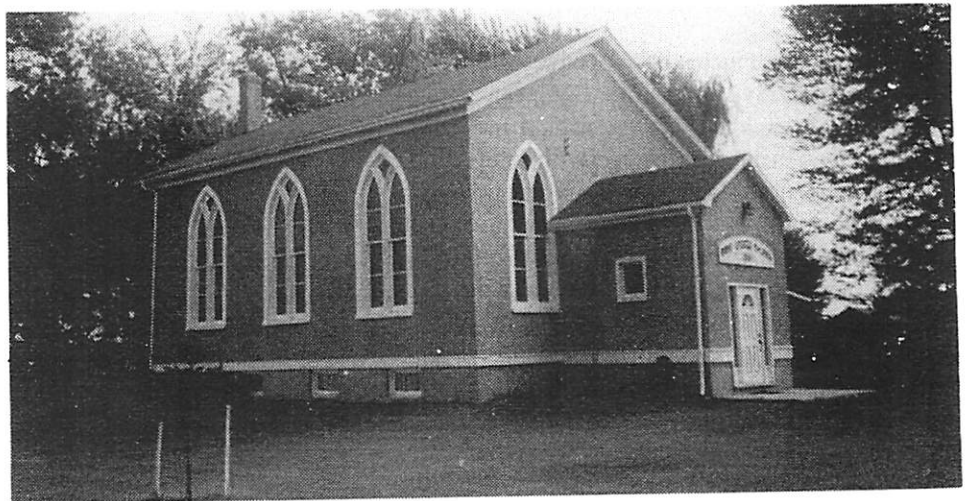
when sharing a common building would have spread the costs over a larger number. However, this critique would not accurately reflect parishioner loyalty to their own religious beliefs which were based on astute biblical interpretations. There was also a somewhat free market mentality in regards to conversion that promoted competition and

thus the need for a strong distinct identity of the different denominations. This lack of unity among the churches was derived from the religious turmoil in Europe, and especially England, in the mid-19th century.

Many of the early churches did not have the advantage of professional architectural assistance. Small churches emerged from the



plans of pattern books or the creativity of talented parishioners or clergy. Most early church groups began their parish by meeting in homes and barns and there was often a need for participants to travel by foot or horseback for many miles, to attend. Money was in short supply and thus land, materials, and labour were donated. The first churches were built of log with simple wooden benches and the temperature outside during services was only intensified on the inside for the parishioners. Even with a building in place the members were not guaranteed a minister and same denomination congregations could be many miles away. Also, there was often no central affiliated authority to turn to for guidance and support.



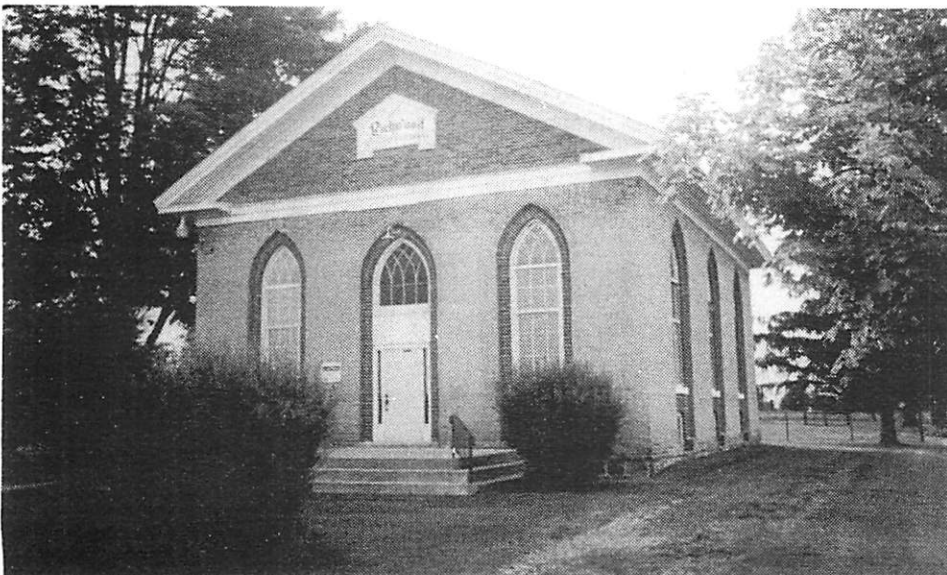
*Norwich Gore United Church, 1861.*  
Photo courtesy Heritage Oxford



*Trinity Anglican Church, 1847, Hwy. #59.*  
Photo courtesy Heritage Oxford



*Delmer United Church, 1906.*  
Photo courtesy Heritage Oxford



*Richwood United Church, 1861.*  
Photo courtesy Heritage Oxford

These rough beginnings were the foundation of a public institution that would have profound influences of the development of our country. Church membership could dictate how you would vote, who you would marry, and even where you would live. The church was the centre of social life in the rural community, a place for courtship and leisure activities, and involvement in clubs and debating societies. Membership was not taken lightly and required loyalty to the faith and adherence to prescribed social mores and religious restrictions.

In the late 19th century, the mainstream denominations of Baptist, Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian had the active loyalty of 70% of the provincial population. The Protestant work ethic and the strong quest for material well-being was balanced with the equally demanding ethics of honour, morality, and social responsibility.

Many of these churches developed beyond their early primitive beginnings. Congregations grew in number with the natural increase of the general population or with time, denominations joined forces. With the growth there were more resources and church architecture benefited. Architects drew plans to be contemporary of the styles of the time and we see Italianate, Edwardian, and revival styles replaced the earlier Gothic and Georgian. Churches would grow larger with predominant towers, more elaborate brick work and stained glass windows, and imposing entrances. The interiors would also take on more complexity and refinement in the finishing of ceilings, walls, lighting, and furnishing. However, the older picturesque small church would remain dominant in numbers as the depression of the 1930s would bring country church building to a near close. The general move of the population to urban centres to live and work would also contribute to the decline of the country church. What we have may be all we will have.

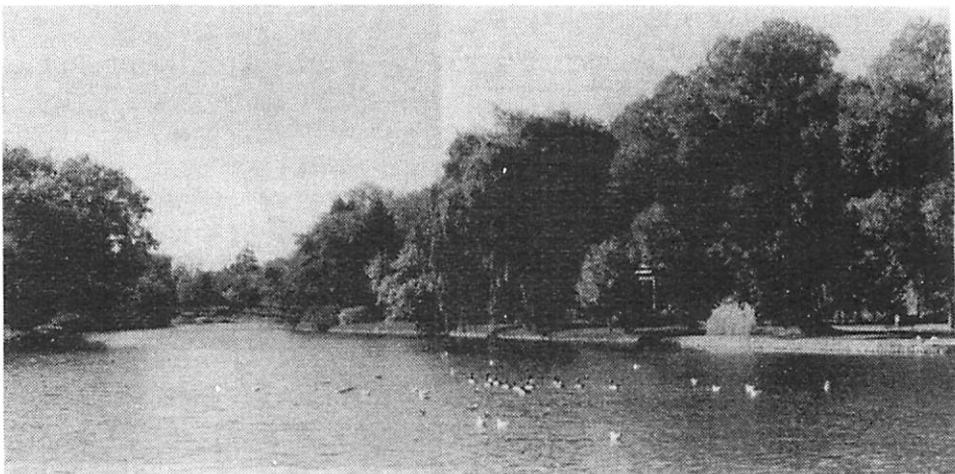
The Oxford Branch of the A.C.O. with the assistance of the Oxford Genealogy Society have taken an inventory of the country churches in this county and developed a book and a slide show. A small token of admiration for the pioneers who pushing back the wilderness to build a life, still had the commitment and tenacity to maintain their strong religious beliefs.

*Jack Hedges*  
President, Heritage Oxford

## Victoria Park, Kitchener

### HERITAGE PLAN IN KITCHENER DRAWS COMMUNITY TOGETHER

The City of Kitchener has retained Nicholas Hill, architect-planner, as consultant for the Victoria Park Heritage Conservation District Study. The District is a large and diverse area including Queen Street South, which was one of the first streets in the city, beginning as the farm lane of pioneer settler Joseph Schneider who settled here in 1807; the 59-acre Victoria Park, laid out in 1984 in the romantic landscape with a 5-acre lake, three islands and many historic monuments and structures; and the 10 surrounding



*A view across the lake in Victoria Park, opened August 27, 1896.*

Photo by Nicholas Hill

residential blocks, designated by their tree-lined streets of mainly circa 1900 to 1920 Berlin Vernacular style houses.

The Study, which determined the history, architecture, distinctiveness and character of the District was completed in October. The community was extensively involved through interviews and newsletters sent out periodically to report on progress and findings. On October 24, a public meeting was held in the Victoria Park pavilion with a large number of residents in attendance. After much discussion and many questions and answers, the chair of the District steering committee, Councillor Mark Yantzi, called for a show of hands in support of the initiative. The result was unanimous support. One of the benefits of the Study most often cited by residents is the way in which it has brought the community together to recognize with pride what a wonderful area they live in. Many feel the Study provides the means to protect a neighbourhood they cherish and value.

The Study will be presented to City Council on December 11, and, with its approval, the second phase - the Plan - will commence, to be completed by April 1996 in time for the centennial celebrating the founding of Victo-



*The Joseph Schneider House, c1816, Kitchener.*

Photo by Nicholas Hill



*Large expanse of glass in the 1913 Arrow Shirt factory on Benton Street, Kitchener. An excellent example of the early "daylight factory".*

Photo by Nicholas Hill

ria Park. Assisting Nicholas Hill is Margaret Goodbody, Heritage Research, and David Douglas, Economic Consulting. Coordinating the study for the City of Kitchener is Leon Bensason, Heritage Planner.

*Nicholas Hill*



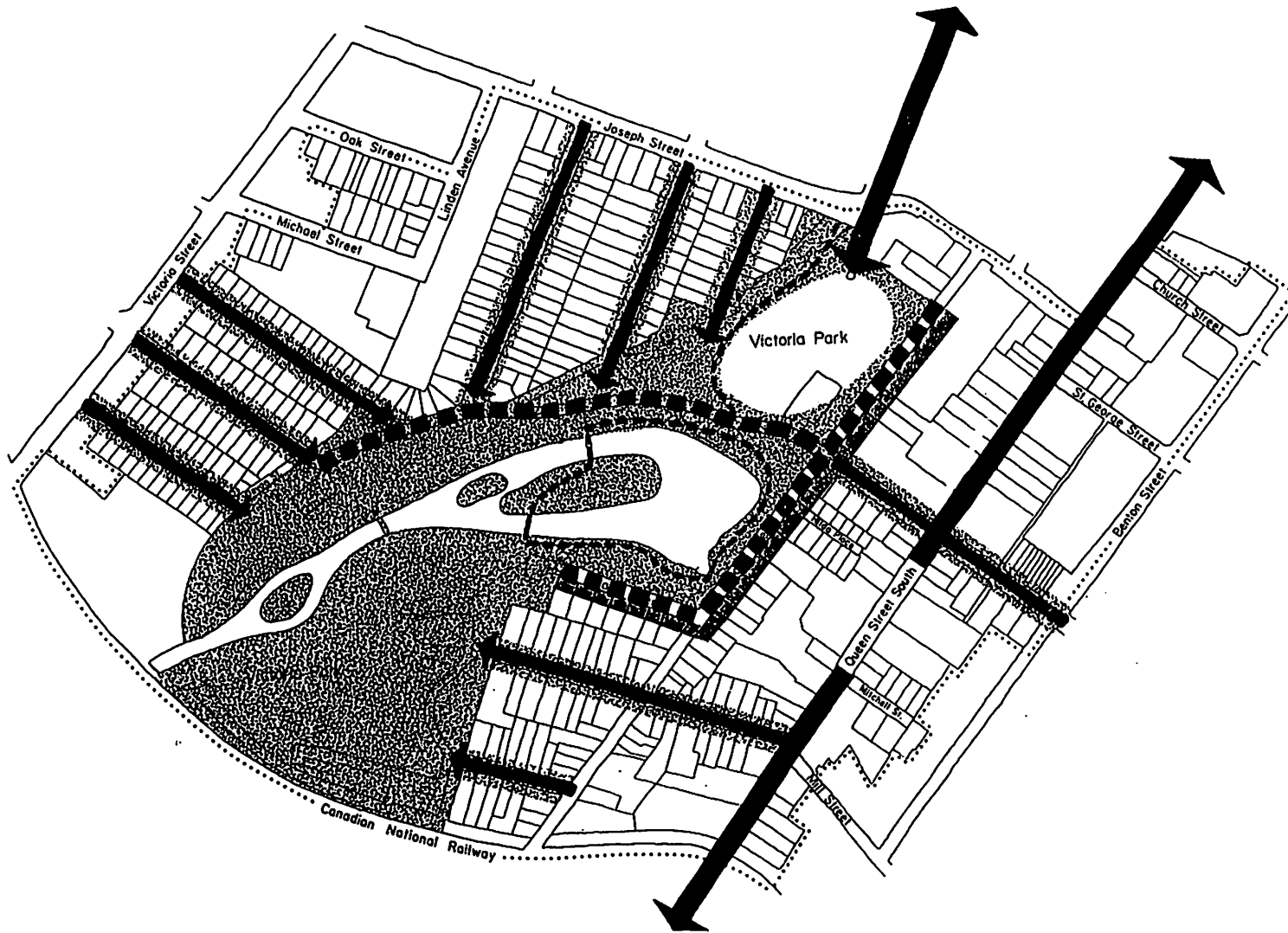
*Nelson's Terrace, Courtland Avenue, Kitchener. Built 1889 for female workers in nearby Williams, Greene & Rome shirt & collar factory.*

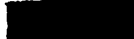
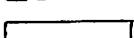
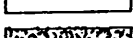
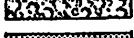
Photo by Nicholas Hill



# VICTORIA PARK HERITAGE CONSERVATION DISTRICT PLAN

## DISTINCTIVE SPACES



-  Enclosed Vistas
-  Monumental Vistas
-  Scenic Routes
-  Scenic Paths
-  Open Space
-  Enclosed Space
-  Frames

# ACO Joins the Post-Moderne Age

In 1933, someone had a dream of starting the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. It would be an organisation that would speak of the heritage and the importance of preserving our architectural history.

An article in the *Evening Telegram*, November 11, 1933, speaks of a newly formed ACO. "To keep records of buildings that are good specimens of early architecture in Ontario and to preserve those structures for posterity is the object of a body formed last night in Toronto with Lieutenant-Governor Bruce as honorary president and H.S. Southam as president."

Since then our membership of concerned citizens have come to the rescue of many important but threatened sites across Ontario. The province has been greatly enriched by our efforts. Our members have been enlightened about our rich architectural past through the ACO's find programmes, advisory board, conferences and publications like the *ACORN*.

As the pressure on our architectural past has increased, however, it has become more obvious that our message has too often been narrowcast to the converted. At the same time, the public is more and more interested in helping to preserve heritage sites. To remain effective as a voice for the preservation of Ontario's heritage, we need to reach out!

A number of initiatives to increase our public profile and effectiveness were approved at our last Annual General Meeting. As part of these, The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario recently began a project to update its communications and management systems. Under the direction of the ACO Administrator, volunteers Stephen Forsyth, Ian Murray, Monica Manteiga, Rob Chandles and others have worked to bring our office up to date.

With the purchase of our new office filing systems, a new Macintosh™ PowerPC computer, software, modem, laser printer, and on-line accounts, the ACO provincial office is becoming more efficient at serving its members.

Also not having to share office space with any other group (Huguenot Society of Canada recently vacated) allows the ACO Provincial Office to develop a better business image as

it prepares for the arrival of an Executive Director.

Our entry into the Information Highway will better inform the public and greatly increase our profile. It will increase our membership, bringing new and vital energy to the ACO, ensuring its survival and position it as one of the first heritage organisations in Ontario to embark on this futuristic journey of discovery and survival.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW SYSTEM

### • Improved Database and Membership Management System:

Our membership data base and mailing lists have been transferred to the new system which allows more efficient service to our members province-wide.

### • Improved Document Handling & Printing:

Our computer system not only allows more efficient word processing and financial reporting, but also allows us to do in-house layout, graphics manipulation, file translation and publishing. This will provide more timely, more responsive, higher quality and less expensive correspondence and publishing.

### • On-Line Programmes:

The ACO now has on-line access to news groups, Internet sites, databases and information including the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN) and other systems world-wide.

Through our on-line accounts, we now have full Internet, One-Net, BitNet and CompuServe mail services, Internet access (PPP/SLIP access, including World Wide Web, Gopher, File Transfer Protocol etc. for our wirehead readers) and access to all major news and information providers.

*Matrix Arts Network* is a non-profit Bulletin Board Service (BBS) run by Inter/Access, using First Class™ Software that has approximately 1,200 artists, arts organisations, and professionals as members. Through the generous assistance of Matrix, there is now a new ACO conference and a new Architecture conference on Matrix.

*TVOntario* On-line is another non-profit BBS run by TVOntario, using First Class™

Software. This BBS service has approximately 6,000 TVO employees, educators, students, artists and other arts professionals as members.

Through both our Matrix and TVO accounts, we are connected to *OneNet*, a world-wide network of First Class™ BBS systems. First Class™ is an e-mail system software developed in Toronto. Through OneNet we can send and receive computer files, including contributions to the Acorn, and allow volunteers to send/receive documents in computer form.

*CompuServe* is our commercial on-line/Internet account. CompuServe allows us access to thousands of newspapers, news services, commercial databases and periodicals worldwide, access to the World Wide Web (W.W.W.) using Netscape software in real time, FTP, Gopher and other Internet services as well as local e-mail, fax, postal and translation services world-wide.

### • On Line Conference:

The ACO Conference on Matrix is called *Architecture\_M*. To access this conference log on to The Matrix Arts Network at 416-599-5636 and open the "Architecture\_M" conference. See notices on, advocacy, lectures, articles, exhibit information and community responses. We are hoping that the conference will be carried by a number of other on-line services in the future.

### • On-Line Publishing:

We are already publishing our notices and press released on-line on a weekly basis and we hope to have the full contents of the Acorn and all position papers available for on-line use and downloading. Please send us your e-mail address so that we can add you to our e-mail lists.

### • World-Wide Web (W.W.W.):

Our office is now equipped with access to the World Wide Web and other Internet services and is preparing its own Web Site.

In the new year the ACO will join thousands of other organisations and individuals worldwide connected in a network known as the World Wide Web. The ACO will establish itself as one of the key information resources on heritage conservation and advocacy in Canada and as an international resource. Our site will be linked to the Cana-



dian Heritage Network among other systems.

The ACO Web Site will offer information on all of our programmes, publications and services. There will be individual pages for each of our branches, heritage sites, publications and links to other heritage sites in Ontario and world-wide.

Here then is what you might find on the ACO W.W.W. site: a Welcome Page; Description of the ACO; ACO Mandate; List of Branches; individual Branch Pages; listings of staff and Board of Directors; Event and Publications Listing and Order Forms; individual pages of each of our sites; Buildings in Distress; Membership Order Forms; Message Centre; Conferences; and links to hundreds of other W.W.W. sites of interest.

The construction and the maintenance of this web-site requires the commitment to the site, its funding, and a commitment to a new vision for the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario from its members. That new vision must take into consideration that a large part of the users on the W.W.W. are children, academics and young adults who are open to, but unaware of the ACO.

• *Broadcast fax:*

Our in-house system can broadcast fax to many fax addresses, greatly improving our access to members, the media and government offices. We are currently building a database of fax numbers. Send us your fax number for inclusion in our fax lists.

• *Communication for Conservation:*

We are in the business of conservation and a major part of our business is educating and informing the public about conservation. A large public for our message is out there, if we choose to make contact. As a voluntary organization, we don't just want to contact the public - we want the public to communicate with us and each other. This is the reason for our new communication plans.

Please send us your comments and suggestions on this subject to my attention.

*John Martins- Manteiga*  
*Acting Chairman, Programme Development*

## ***Provincial Office Addresses:***

**Postal/Courier Address:**

Architectural Conservancy of Ontario  
10 Adelaide Street East, Suite 204  
Toronto ON M5C 1J3

**Telephone:**

416 - 367 - 8075

**Fax Number:**

416 - 947 - 1066

**Conference on Matrix:**

Architecture\_M  
*Log on to Matrix at 416-599-5636  
and access the Architecture\_M  
conference. See notices on advocacy,  
lectures, articles, exhibit information.*

**Internet Address:**

ACO @intacc.web.net

**CompuServe Address:**

103117,2051

**OneNet Addresses:**

ACO,Matrix  
ACO,TVOntario

## ***Report of the Consulting Heritage Manager***

### **INTRODUCTION**

This fall, we have seen encouraging results from head office's program delivery.

### **ADVISORY BOARD**

Four more Advisory Board reports have been completed -- the Winchester Hotel in Toronto, the Morrow Block in Peterborough, the Ridgeway Train Station in Fort Erie and the Halton Ceramics Site in Burlington.

The Winchester Hotel report was commissioned by the Cabbagetown Preservation Association and the hotel owner, Jim Christodoulou. With the assistance of Advisory Board members Bill Moffet and Phillip Carter, a report assessing the present physical conditions at the hotel was completed. Notably, the report calls attention to the roof, the building element which is crucial to maintain but which can often be overlooked (as it is farthest from the ground!). The report continues with recommendations for repair

and restoration work in order of priority.

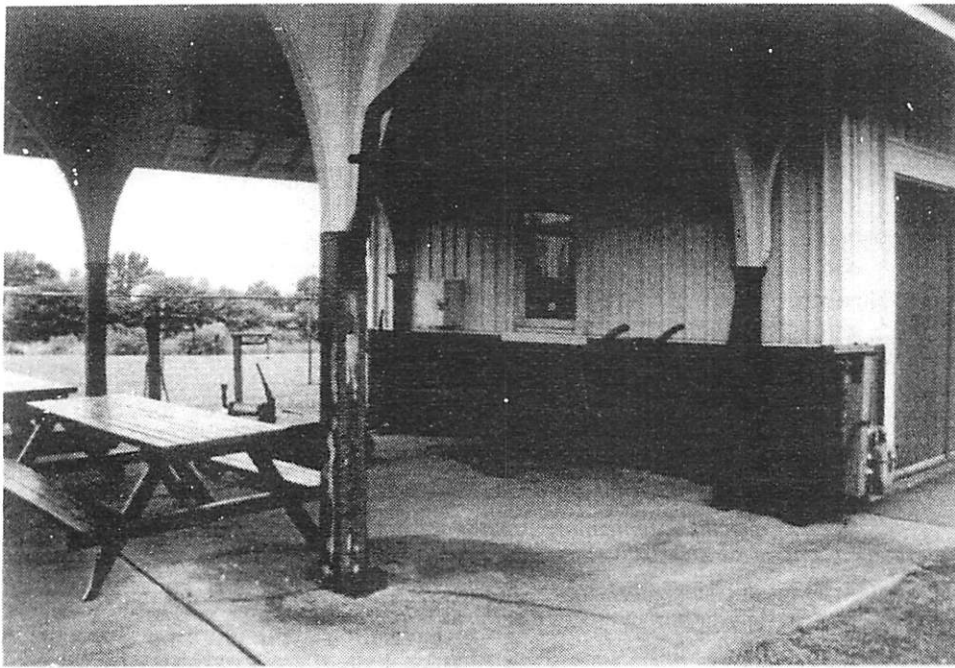
Alan Zeegan Associates Ltd. represented the Advisory Board on the Morrow Block project. The consulting engineering firm provided a structural analysis of the commanding Second Empire building for the Peterborough LACAC. Both the Morrow Block and Winchester Hotel are landmark Second Empire properties.

Advisory Board member Denis Heroux prepared a report at the request of the Fort Erie Railroad Museum. He conducted a conditions assessment of the former Ridgeway Train Station and recommended an approach for repainting and related repairs. He also appended suggestions for business venture opportunities to assist in the operation of the museum.

For the Halton Ceramics site (originally the National Fireproofing Company of Canada), a team was assembled. Leah Wallace researched and wrote an historical and architectural evaluation: Alan Seymour, Architect, with the assistance of Louis Cordeiro of Hamilton Brick and John Easton of Venture refractories, assessed the condition of the two remaining brick kilns (see the Spring issue of ACORN for an illustration); and John Martins-Manteiga documented the site in photographs as its structures were being demolished. In addition, Ken Coit, who was contacted by Hamilton Branch President Robert Hamilton, volunteered to make a measured drawing of one of the kilns.

Another brickworks has been the interest of the Advisory Board, which sometimes monitors provincially important sites but does not issue a report to a client. The Advisory Board monitoring of the Don Valley Brickworks in East York has resulted in a greater understanding of the need for a conservation plan. At an October 24 meeting, Martin Ahermaa, who has been monitoring the Don Valley Brickworks project for the Advisory Board, and the Consulting Heritage Manager were given assurances that a conservation plan for the site's buildings would be included in the site master plan.

Furthermore, the Advisory Board's Manual of Practice has been completed and adopted by Provincial Council. As well, Provincial Council at its November 11 meeting appointed Patrick Coles, Architect, Chairman of the Advisory Board. Patrick will be responsible for chairing the Board's annual meeting and for advising the Consulting Heritage Manager in making difficult judgement calls on projects. Requests for Advi-



*Ridgeway Station, Fort Erie. West elevation under the canopy. The paint on the post is failing for two reasons: the plywood sheathing on the post is not designed for exterior use, and the missing downspout causes large amounts of water to run over the plywood and to infiltrate the cracks in the paint.*

*Ridgeway Station, Fort Erie. West elevation under the canopy. The posts, covered in plywood, are crooked. They should be replaced by appropriately sized lumber. The posts should sit on kiln-dried plates to raise them off the ground otherwise the bottom ends of the posts will rot prematurely.*

sory Board service will continue to be received by the Consulting Heritage Manager.

## TRAINING

The November 18 workshop "Using Ontario Legislation Effectively for Heritage Conservation" was a success if measured by the feedback sheets returned by the workshop participants. Instructors Paul Dilse, planning consultant Robert Shipley and Michael Johnson of the Archaeology and Heritage Planning Unit at the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation facilitated the workshop, providing an overview of 31 sections in the Ontario Heritage Act, Planning Act and Municipal Act and their specific use in heritage conservation. Situational exercises assisted participants in applying the legislative sections to practical cases. The participants, who came from North York, Goderich, Kitchener, Whitby, Cobourg, Toronto and Port Hope to attend the workshop at the Ontario Heritage Centre, expressed interest in taking another ACO workshop.

Besides our scheduled annual workshop, we have also designed and facilitated a custom-made workshop for the City of Toronto

building inspectors and plan examiners. The workshop, repeated six times for a total of 125 staff, concerns the inspection of heritage buildings.

## TOURS

While the Niagara/Buffalo tour had to be cancelled due to poor subscription, all the tickets to the Shaw Festival play purchased as part of the tour package were taken. Those who bought the tickets from head office were A.K. Sculthorpe, Don Holland, Jutta Upshall and Shirley Farlinger.

On September 21, we repeated the Don River parks tour for The Garden Club of Toronto. The feedback was positive, and the tour attracted a new member to the ACO.

We also succeeded in getting the ACO listed in the City of Toronto's Green Tourism Partnership leaflet.

## FINAL REPORT FOR 1995

An analysis of this year's activities will appear in the next issue of ACORN.

*Paul Dilse*

## Rodger Greig

We were very sorry to hear about the death of Rodger Greig. We extend our sympathy to his wife Mary and to all his relatives and friends.

"Born in New York City, Rodger came to Canada with his parents in 1939, a move resulting from his Canadian father's desire to return to Canada at the outbreak of the Second World War."

"Greig graduated in art and archaeology from the University of Toronto and taught for some years at Moira Secondary School before retiring in 1979."

"His interest in Belleville architecture was inspired by the threatened demolition of a historic home on South Front Street, for which Greig and some friends rallied community support to have it restored and preserved. This led to his being the founding member and charter president of the Quinte Branch, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, and to promoting "Third Sunday Walking Tours" which have become popular in Belleville and many Quinte area communities in recent years."

"Moving to the old Scott house at Bentleys Corners, south of Cherry Valley, he spent 30 years restoring the large 1820s vintage home to precise authentic detail, doing projects almost up until his death, his wife, Mary, noted."

"He also set up the Prince Edward archives in the old registry office and wrote the script for a book by Belleville publisher Nick Mika on old houses in Prince Edward County."

*We thank Audrey McRae of Lonsdale for sending us the newspaper article from the Belleville Intelligencer, from which much of this information about Mr. Greig was taken.*



REDEFINING CANADIAN ARCHITECTURE

## TORONTO ARCHITECT EDMUND BURKE



ANGELA CARR

## Toronto Architect Edmund Burke

A book launch and reception to celebrate the publishing of Angela Carr's, Toronto Architect Edmund Burke: Redefining Canadian Architecture was held on December 2 at Trinity-St. Paul's United Church, in Toronto.

Many city landmarks testify to Burke's talent as one of Canada's pre-eminent architects: Robert Simpson's Queen Street Store, The Prince Edward Bloor Viaduct and Jarvis Street Baptist Church. What an ideal holiday gift for anyone who loves the varied architecture of their city and wants to know more about it.

"A ground-breaking study that fills a gap in scholarship on Canadian architecture. What is most admirable is that Carr has interwoven Burke's life (1850-1919) and career with a number of larger issues and germane to the period." Geoffrey Simmins, Dept. of Art., University of Calgary.

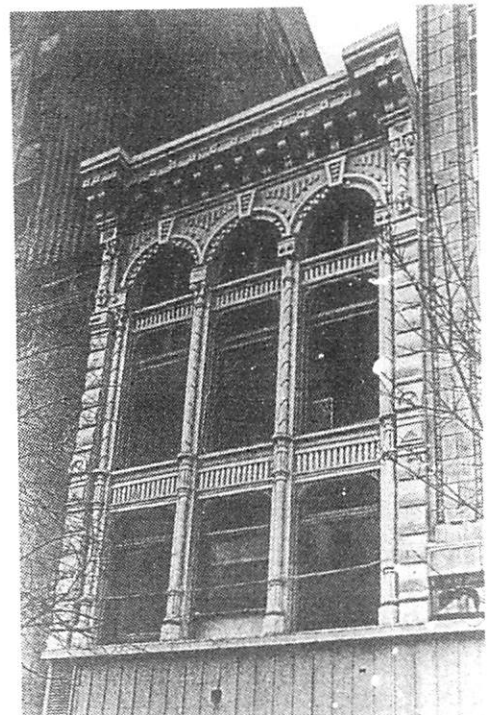
## Alert for Victoria Hall, Hamilton

*Much of the following information was first contained in a promotional information package prepared by the City of Hamilton Planning and Development Department.*

Victoria Hall, a designated property and national historic site in Hamilton, is imminently threatened with demolition.

Victoria Hall's flamboyant Italianate commercial facade has exceptional architectural value due to the sheet-metal construction of its upper three storeys. Designed to simulate the appearance of an elaborately carved stone masonry facade, this galvanized-iron front constitutes a rare surviving example in Canada of sheet-metal facade construction predating the 1890's; it is, most likely, the only one ever built in Hamilton. Moreover, it is the only known surviving example in Canada of a facade constructed entirely by traditional tinsmithing techniques, i.e., without the benefit of the mass-produced, catalogue-ordered components that became available throughout the country in the 1890's.

The four-storey building erected in 1887-88 overlooks Gore Park, the city's major public square and downtown park. The Gore, encompassing the landscaped open space and bordering streetscapes traditionally functioned as the city's commercial heart and focal point of public events. The Gore streetscape still maintains its primary role as an integrated architectural enclosure around the park.



*Victoria Hall, upper floors, Hamilton.*

Courtesy of City of Hamilton Planning & Development Dept.

The conversion of the former Dominion Public Building to a large consolidated court facility, scheduled for completion in 1997, is anticipated to have a positive economic impact on the downtown core, particularly the Gore. Once in operation, it is expected that the Hamilton Courthouse will act as a catalyst, drawing the service industry and other businesses back to the city's historic civic centre. Situated next door to the courthouse, Victoria Hall would be strategically located to benefit from such a trend.

*Early mailing of the post card inserted into ACORN or your own letter of support will give Victoria Hall its best chance of survival.*

### FIRST NOTICE AND CALL FOR PAPERS

#### CONFERENCE '96

AT WOODSTOCK IN OXFORD COUNTY

#### INSIDE STORIES: RESTORATIONS OF INTERIORS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Talks will be given that will celebrate the re-creation of some of the finest interiors in public buildings in Ontario. Sessions will be held at new St. Paul's Anglican Church, Woodstock.

A tour of beautiful Oxford County is planned.

**Friday, April 19 & Saturday, April 20**

The 1995 Annual General Meeting of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario will take place at that time

Those individuals interested in giving a 25 - 35 minute talk about some restoration project should send a brief (4 sentence summary) to:

#### Conference '96

Suite 204 - 10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

## The Life and Times of Yonge Street



Explore the legacy of John Graves Simcoe and his search for a road to Canada's interior that led to the building of the longest street in the world.

### Topics will include:

- the lure of furs in the interior and the routes used to reach them
- the First Nations and their skills and knowledge about interior travel
  - Simcoe's interest in the best route to the interior
- Simcoe's incredible journey and the decision to open an alternative route
  - the attempts to open the road
    - William Von Moll Berczy and his troubles
    - success at last on February 16 and 17, 1796!
- the Penetanguishene connection as a military road for defence
  - surveys, settlers and settlements
  - inns and other services for the newcomers
- Yonge Street as a battleground - the site of the 1837 Rebellion
  - Yonge Street as a transportation corridor
    - the building of Highway 11
- Yonge Street's transformation in the last two centuries and beyond

A seminar presented by the  
Ontario Historical Society  
and the Metropolitan  
Toronto Reference Library  
Friday evening, February 16  
& Saturday, February 17,  
1996

Metropolitan Toronto  
Reference Library  
789 Yonge Street, Toronto

1796



1996



and beyond

For a detailed  
brochure, please write:  
The Ontario Historical  
Society  
34 Parkview Avenue  
Willowdale, Ontario  
M2N 3Y2  
(416) 226-9011  
(fax) 226-2740

The Ontario Historical  
Society gratefully  
acknowledges the support  
of the Ministry of  
Citizenship, Culture and  
Recreation.

*We are looking for  
Amateur Slides,  
Home Movies or  
Photographs of Vintage  
Toronto.*

*This material is being  
assembled for a future  
architectural film  
documentary project on  
Toronto.*

*Please contact:  
John Martins-Manteiga  
at 416-537-3493  
1414-200 Dufferin St.  
Toronto, ON M6K 1Z4*

### NEW BOOK:

## EARLY HOUSES OF RICHMOND HILL AND VICINITY

by George W.J. Duncan.

Published by the Richmond Hill  
Historical Society.

Soft Cover, 56 pages, 8 1/2x11 format

Early houses of Richmond Hill and Vicinity describes in text, black and white photographs and detailed measured drawings, pre-1840 dwellings still standing in the community.

Aside from its local historical interest, the book is of value to those interested in features of early 19th century Loyalists and Pennsylvania German Buildings.

The numerous scale drawings accurately depict entranceways, staircases, mantel pieces and other examples of period joinery.

The price of the book is \$15 plus \$2.50 for postage, and may be ordered from the Richmond Hill Historical Society, P.O. Box 61527, 9350 Yonge Street Richmond Hill, Ontario, L5C 0C9



*Henricks-Brodie House. The house remains in the ownership of the descendants of the original builder.*  
Photo by George Duncan



# T O R O N T O ' S GARDEN HISTORY

LECTURES AT THE TORONTO HISTORICAL BOARD - 205 Yonge Street  
Thursdays - 12:00 Noon - January 25 - February 22, 1996

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1996**

**"Little Leisure is Left for the Gardens": A Study of Early Gardens in Canada**

Presented by Helen Skinner, a garden researcher, freelance writer, regular contributor to *Century Home* magazine and an accredited horticultural judge.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1996**

**Gilding the Lily: Ornament in Ontario Gardens, 1867-1914**

Presented by Pleasance Crawford, a landscape historian and co-editor of *Garden Voices, Two Centuries of Canadian Garden Writing*.

**THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 22, 1996  
Mount Pleasant Cemetery**

Presented by Brian MacInnes, Manager, Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Crematorium and Mausoleum.



**THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 8, 1996**

**Past Glories of Great Estate Gardens:  
A Perspective on Dunington-Grubb between the Wars**

Presented by Christopher Campbell, a garden historian and landscape architect specializing in historic properties.

**THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 15, 1996**

**Spadina:  
The Timeless 130 year old garden**

Presented by Marian Lawson, chairperson of the Spadina garden re-creation, co-chair of the Casa Loma garden restoration, past-president of The Garden Club of Toronto, and by Wendy Woodworth, Senior Horticulturalist, Toronto Historical Board.

presented by: Toronto Historical Board, the Civic Garden Centre and the Garden Club of Toronto

General Admission: \$4.00/person; Toronto Historical Board Heritage Partners: Free;  
Members of the Civic Garden Centre: \$2.00; Members of The Garden Club of Toronto: \$2.00

**For information call: (416) 392-6827**



THB 12/95



# Photo Contest

Identify the following buildings  
and their locations!

They are all from the covers of  
ACORN beginning in 1980.

Send your answers,  
listed from #1 to #15,  
on a piece of paper with  
your name, address & postal code

to:

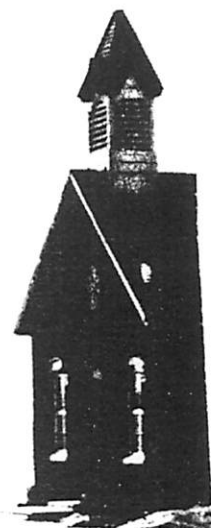
ACORN

Photo Contest

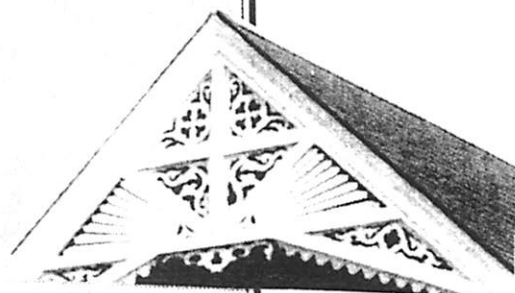
c/o Marg Rowell

131 William Street W.

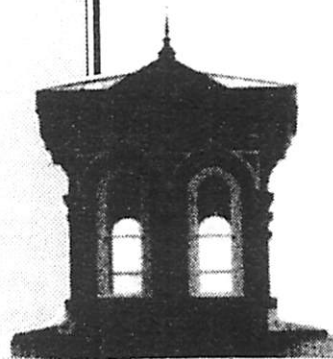
Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 1K2



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The deadline for entries is **February 19, 1996!**

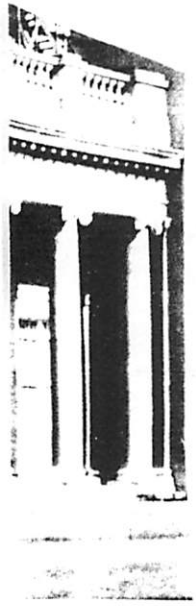
A random draw from the entries with the  
most correct number of buildings  
identified will be made and

the winner will receive a copy of the  
new book by George Duncan:

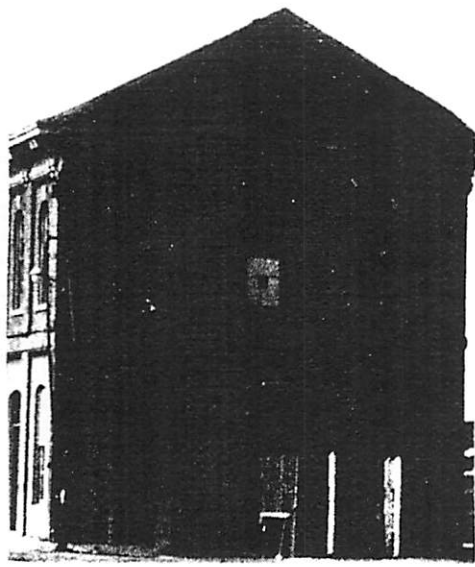
"Early Houses of Richmond Hill and Vicinity".

We will publish the correct answers  
and the winner's name  
in the next ACORN.

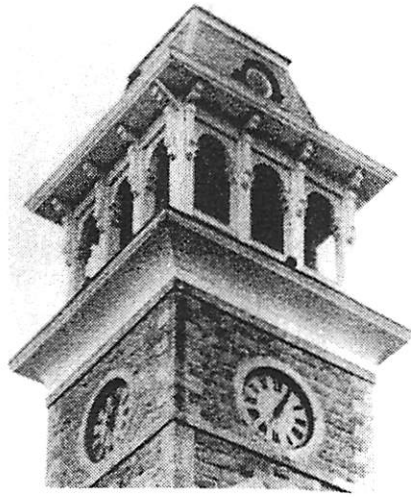
*Good Luck!*



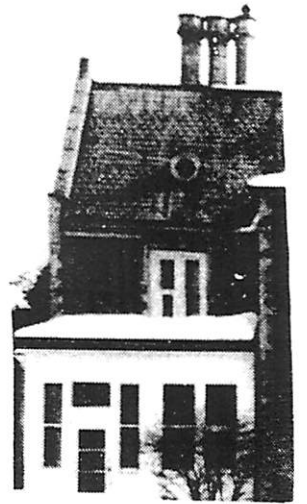
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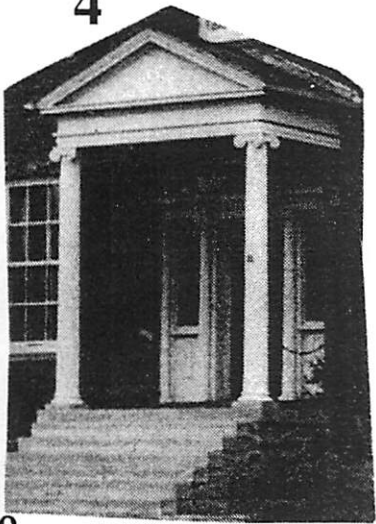
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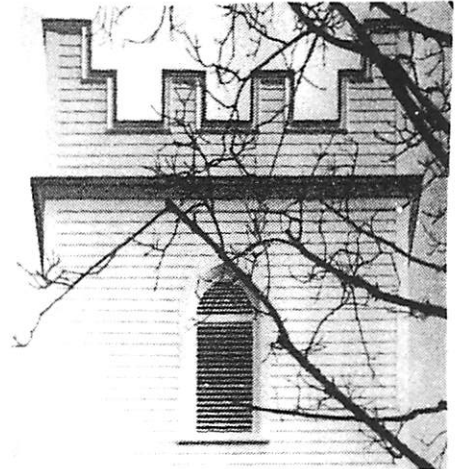
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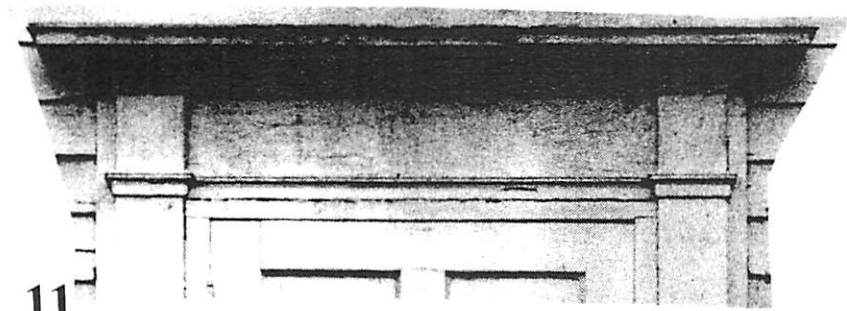
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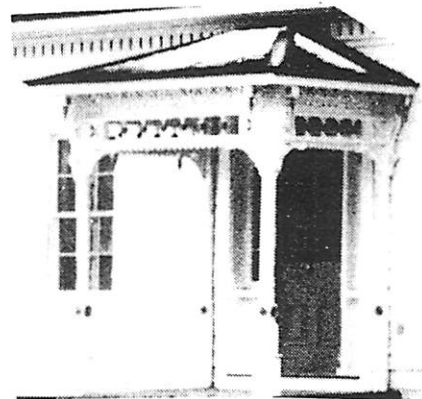
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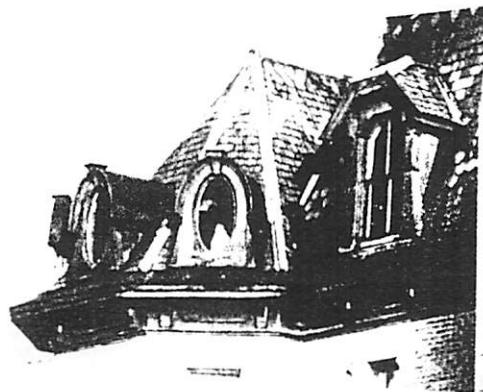
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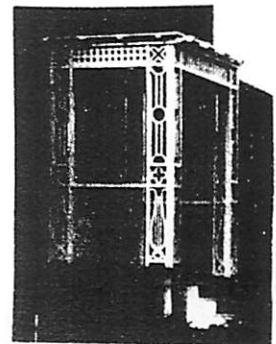
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Toronto, Ontario  
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